

CLAIMS

1. A slot machine with a game including at least one reel and a rotator located separate from the at least one reel, the slot machine with a game played by a player for a wager comprising:

a slot machine cabinet including a hollow space therein,
a belly box and a top box there above within the slot machine cabinet hollow space;

a door on the cabinet to enclose the belly box, the door having at least one window with a pay line for observation of the position of the at least one reel by the player during play;

a top box front glass and a rotator display backboard to cover the top box hollow space, the top box front glass and the rotator display backboard set to face the player;

indicia on the top box front glass and the rotator display backboard;

a payout meter visible on the door to show if the player has won a payout;

at least one reel mounted within the belly box, the at least one reel having symbols on the periphery thereof, the at least one reel driven randomly to spin and stop for positioning the symbols on each of the at least one reel in, near or away from the window pay line when the reel stops the at least one reel mounted on an axis substantially parallel to the window pay line;

a rotator supported in the top box behind the top box front glass and the rotator display backboard and apart from the window, the rotator mounted to be rotated upon a shaft located substantially normal to the top box front glass and the rotator display backboard, the rotator set to finish rotating after the at least one reel spins so that the rotator provides an anticipatory feature to the reel play afforded to the player during play of the game;

a central processing unit programmed with the game for the wager, the central processing unit connected to the at least one reel to drive it randomly so that the at least one reel spins about its axis and stops before any other of the at least one reel stops, the central processing unit independently coupled to the rotator so that the rotator stops rotating on its shaft after the at least one reel and any other reel stops, the central processing unit connected to the payout meter to show if the player has won on reel and rotator play.

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2. A slot machine with a game including a plurality of reels for spinning and a rotator located separate from the plurality of reels, the rotator for rotating the slot machine with the game for play by a player for a wager including the spinning plurality of reels and the rotating rotator, comprising;

a plurality of reels in the slot machine mounted to be spun for the player in response to a wager, each of the plurality of reels begins spinning together but each of the plurality of reels finishes spinning in sequence;

a rotator on the slot machine positioned apart from the plurality of reels, the rotator facing the player, the rotator rotates with the spinning plurality of reels, the rotator controlled to finish rotating subsequent to the finishing spinning sequence of the plurality of reels for determination of the outcome of the game play, and

a central processing unit in the slot machine coupled to the plurality of reels and connected to the rotator, the central processing unit for spinning randomly the plurality of reels in sequence and for finishing the spinning in sequence of the plurality of reels, the central processing unit connected to the rotator for beginning rotating randomly the rotator with the spinning of the plurality of reels and the central processing unit connected to finish the rotation of the rotator after the plurality of reels so that an anticipatory feature is added to the plurality of reels by the continued rotation of the rotator until after the spinning of the plurality of reels ends in sequence.

3. A slot machine with a game including a plurality of reels and a rotator located separate from the plurality of reels, the slot machine with a game played by a player for a wager comprising:

a slot machine cabinet;

a hollow space in the slot machine cabinet, the hollow body including there within a belly box below and a top box above;

a plurality of reels mounted in the belly box;

a door over the belly box, the door with a window, the plurality of reels having symbols about the periphery of each, the plurality of reels mounted for driven random spinning during game play, each of the plurality of each reels mounted to spin about its axis and each of the axes set in line with one another and substantially parallel to the window so that symbols on the reels are visible through the window and may be aligned randomly with a pay line,

the plurality of reels mounted within the hollow space and driven randomly to spin for positioning a symbol on the periphery of each reel in, near or away from the window pay line when each reel stops;

a payout meter visible on the door to show if the player has won a payout;

a rotator supported in the top box, the rotator set to finish rotating after each of the plurality of reels stop spinning randomly so that the rotator provides an anticipatory feature to the reel play afforded to the player during play of the game;

a shaft for the rotator about which the rotator rotates, the shaft positioned generally normal to each axis of the plurality of reels;

a bracket for mounting within the top box to locate the rotator so that its shaft is positioned substantially normal to the axis of the spinning plurality of the reels during play;

a pointer mounted to the shaft and visible for play, the pointer rotated randomly by the rotator during play;

a glass covering the top box and the pointer, the glass with indicia facing outwardly of the top box for observation by the player and the pointer for random alignment with the pointer, and

a central processing unit in the hollow space, the central processing unit connected to each of the plurality of reels to drive them randomly so that each of the plurality of reels spins about its axis, the central processing unit programmed to stop the spinning of each of the plurality of reels in sequence, the central processing unit independently coupled to the rotator so that the rotator begins and rotates when the plurality of reels rotate but the rotator finishes rotating after the plurality of reels have in sequence stopped spinning.

4. The slot machine game of claim 3 with a stepper motor for each of the plurality of reels and for the rotator, each of the stepper motors coupled to the central processing unit, the stepper motors for the plurality of reels carrying reel strip support and reel strip with symbols, the stepper motor for the rotator carrying a pointer carrier positioned in the top box facing the glass for observation by the player during play.

5. The slot machine game of claim 4 with an extension harness to couple between the central processing unit in the hollow space and the stepper motor for the rotator in the top box.

6. The slot machine game of claim 3 with a light harness coupling the central processing unit and lamps mounted inside the top box, the lamps located for backlighting the indicia in the top box during play.

7. The slot machine of claim 3 wherein the glass includes a front glass over the pointer and with indicia and a rotator display backboard positioned in the top box behind the front glass so that the pointer is securely positioned therebetween.

8. The slot machine of claim 3 wherein the central processing unit includes a delay to end the rotation of the rotator an adjustable time period after the sequence of spinning of the reels to thereby enhance the anticipatory feature.

9. The slot machine of claim 3 with an audio system in the central processing unit to signal with sound payout meter results.

10. A method for converting a slot machine with a game including a plurality of reels to the game with the plurality of reels and a rotator located separate from the plurality of reels, the slot machine with the game played by a player for a wager comprising:

a slot machine cabinet;

a hollow space in the slot machine cabinet, the hollow body including a belly box and a top box;

a plurality of reels mounted in the belly box;

a door over the belly box, the door with a window, the plurality of reels having symbols about the periphery of each, the plurality of reels mounted for driven random spinning during game play, each of the plurality of reels mounted to spin about its axis and each axis set in line with other axes and substantially parallel to the window so that symbols on the reels are visible through the window and may be aligned randomly with a pay line, the plurality of reels mounted within the hollow space and driven randomly to spin together and then to position a symbol on the periphery of each reel in, near or away from the window pay line when each reel stops, and

a central processing unit connected to each of the plurality of reels to drive them randomly so that each of the plurality of reels spins about its axis, the central processing unit programmed to stop the spinning of each of the plurality of reels in sequence, the central processing unit independently coupled to the rotator so that the rotator rotates when the plurality of reels

rotate but the rotator finishes rotating after the plurality of reels have in sequence stopped spinning, and

a stepper motor for each of the plurality of reels and for the rotator, each of the stepper motors coupled to the central processing unit, the stepper motors for the plurality of reels carrying a reel strip support and a reel strip with symbols, the stepper motor for the rotator carrying a pointer carrier positioned in the top box facing the glass for observation by the player during play the method having the steps of:

reorienting one of the stepper motors of the plurality of reels from the belly box to the top box to provide a rotator located in the top box, the rotator set to finish rotating after each of the plurality of reels stop spinning randomly so that the rotator provides an anticipatory feature to the reel play afforded to the player during play of the game;

locating a shaft for the rotator about which the rotator rotates by positioning the shaft generally normal to each axis of the plurality of reels;

mounting a bracket within the top box to locate the rotator so that its shaft is positioned substantially normal to the axis of the spinning plurality of the reels during play;

carrying a pointer on the shaft, the pointer visible for play, the pointer rotated randomly by the rotator during play;

covering the top box and the pointer with a glass, the glass with indicia facing outwardly of the top box for observation by the player and the pointer set for random alignment with the indicia, and

coupling the reoriented stepper motor to the central processing unit with an extension harness.